

# Phase I Draft Early Restoration Plan



## MISSISSIPPI ARTIFICIAL REEF HABITAT

### GENERAL PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Mississippi Artificial Reef Habitat project proposes to deploy nearshore artificial reefs in Mississippi Sound. Nearshore artificial reefs provide valuable hardbottom habitat with foraging and shelter sites for various species of larvae and sessile epifauna and infauna (invertebrates and vertebrates). Currently there are 67 existing reefs areas that are each approximately 3 acres in size. At present, approximately half of the existing reef areas have a low profile and consist of crushed concrete or limestone. With the proposed project, approximately 100 acres of crushed limestone would be added to the 201-acre footprint of the existing reef areas.

### RESOURCE BENEFITS AND RELATIONSHIP TO INJURY

The Mississippi Artificial Reef Habitat project would restore injured shallow-water resources in benthic habitats in the Mississippi Sound, resulting from exposure to oil, dispersant, and/or response activities undertaken to prevent, minimize, or remediate oiling from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

### METHODS AND RESULTS OF OFFSETS ESTIMATION

A method called Resource Equivalency Analysis was used to quantify the restoration benefits estimated to be provided by this project ("Offsets"), resulting in expected production of infaunal and epifaunal biomass at nearshore artificial reefs. Offsets reflect estimated kilograms of biomass produced, and would be applied against secondary productivity injuries in the Mississippi Sound from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill as determined by the Trustees' total assessment of injury. A number of factors were considered in estimating biomass production, including, but not limited to, typical productivity in the proposed project area, estimated project life span and the size of the project. Total estimated Offsets for the Mississippi Artificial Reef Habitat project are 763,609 Discounted Kilogram (Dkg) Years of infaunal and epifaunal biomass (ash-free-dry-weight) at nearshore artificial reefs in Mississippi.

### ESTIMATED COSTS

Total estimated project costs are \$2.6 million.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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## Inshore Artificial Reefs

- |                                  |                                    |                                 |   |  |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--|
| • 1. Oak Street Reef             | • 15. Walmart Reef                 | • 29. VA Hospital Reef          | • 43. South Deer Island Barge Reef      | • 57. Gulf Park Estates Pier Reef      |
| • 2. St. Claire Reef             | • 16. Jeff Davis Ave. Pier Reef    | • 30. Courthouse Road Pier Reef | • 44. Joe Thornton Hull Reef            | • 58. Bellefontaine Reef               |
| • 3. Waveland Rubble Reef 2      | • 17. Long Beach Harbor Jetty Reef | • 31. Tegarden Reef             | • 45. Spoil Island South Reef           | • 59. Graveline Reef                   |
| • 4. Monroe Street Reef          | • 18. Long Beach Harbor Pier Reef  | • 32. Naval Hospital Reef       | • 46. Fort Bayou Reef                   | • 60. Pascagoula River Reef Site 3     |
| • 5. American Legion Launch Reef | • 19. USM Reef                     | • 33. Legacy Towers Reef        | • 47. Spoil Island North Reef           | • 61. Pascagoula River Reef Site 4     |
| • 6. American Legion Pier Reef   | • 20. Long Beach East Reef         | • 34. Broadwater Harbor Reef    | • 48. Old Highway 90 Bridge Reef West   | • 62. Pascagoula West River Mouth Reef |
| • 7. Cedar Point Reef            | • 21. Fournier Ave. Reef           | • 35. Whitehouse Reef           | • 49. East Biloxi Channel Reef          | • 63. Round Island Jetty               |
| • 8. Square Handkerchief Key     | • 22. Charles Walker Pier          | • 36. Keesler Harbor Reef       | • 50. Old Highway 90 Bridge Reef East   | • 64. Pascagoula River Reef Site 1     |
| • 9. BSL Train Bridge Reef       | • 23. Urie Pier North              | • 37. Goat Island Reef          | • 51. Katrina Key Reef                  | • 65. Pascagoula Front Beach Reef      |
| • 10. Mellini Point Reef         | • 24. Urie Pier South              | • 38. d'Iberville Marina Reef   | • 52. Ocean Springs Community Pier Reef | • 66. Pascagoula Municipal Pier        |
| • 11. Pass Harbor Pier Reef      | • 25. Moses Pier Reef              | • 39. d'Iberville Bridge Reef   | • 53. Deer Island North Reef            | • 67. Waveland Pier Reef               |
| • 12. Lang Ave. Reef             | • 26. Thornton Ave. Reef           | • 40. Biloxi Harbor Reef        | • 54. Ocean Springs Pier Reef           |  |
| • 13. Japonica Drive Reef        | • 27. Kelly Ave. Reef              | • 41. Keesler Rubble Reef       | • 55. Ocean Springs Harbor Pier Reef    |  |
| • 14. Emerald Street Reef        | • 28. Hewes Avenue Reef            | • 42. Kuhn Street Pier Reef     | • 56. Gulf Park Estates Reef            |  |